

or an optical isomer, diastereomer, enantiomer, pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

- (a) w is 0 to about 6, x is 0 to about 10, and t is 0 to about 6;
- (b) A is a substituted heterocyclic group having about 4 to about 9 members;
- (c)  $R^1$  is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group;
- (d)  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are bonded together to form a substituted piperidyl;
- (e)  $R^4$  is selected from the group consisting of  $-C(O)-C(O)-$  and  $-CH(R^1)-$ ;
- (f)  $R^5$  is selected from the group consisting of  $-NR^6(R^7)$  and  $-O_rR^6$ , wherein r is 0 or 1; with the proviso that wherein  $R^4$  is  $-CH(R^1)-$  and  $R^5$  is  $-O_rR^6$  then r is 1;
- (g)  $R^6$  is selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group; and  $R^7$  is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and  $R^6$ ;
- (h)  $R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group; and
- (i)  $R^9$  is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydrocarbon group.

Please cancel Claim 26.

Please amend Claim 29 as follows:

29. A method of treating multidrug resistance, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment the composition according to Claim 18.